Flashback

arkco
F
417
.W3
F55
65:1

Volume 65, Number 1, Spring 2015

Washington County Historical Society

118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701
http://www.washcohistoricalsociety.org
http://www.headquartershouse.org

Submissions

Flashback (ISSN: 0428-5573) is published quarterly in the spring, summer, fall, and winter as an official publication of the Washington County Historical Society. Send all materials for publication to: *Flashback* Editor, Washington County Historical Society, 118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

There is no payment for articles published in *Flashback*. The editor retains the right to edit all submitted articles prior to publication.

Membership

Society membership is invited to those interested in preservation of Washington County history. Annual dues for categories of members are: Senior, Student, Public Library, $15; General, $25; Trail Blazer, $50; Explorer $100; Wagon Master, $250; Pioneer, $500; Statesman, $1,000; Empire Builder, $5,000.

Members are mailed *Flashback* each quarter. Available past issues are $6 each, postpaid. Add $1 postage for issues printed in 1951 through February 1972. Web site: washcohistoricalsociety.org or headquartershouse.org.

2014-15 Officers

President	J.B. Hogan
First Vice President (Membership)	Steve Litzinger
Second Vice President (Finance)	Kim Smith
Recording Secretary	Scott Van Laningham
Corresponding Secretary	Judy Brittenum
Treasurer	Jane Davis
Flashback Editor	Charles Alison
Director of Historic Programs	Judy Costello
Past President	Hoyt Purvis

Board of Directors

Nancy Allen, Sheree Alt, Brenda Blagg, Margaret Clark, Ellen Compton, David Demorotski, Don Deweese, Greg Herman, Bill Kincaid, Carolyn Leonard, Allyn Lord, David Martinson, Timothy G. Nutt, Conrad Odom, Janet Ousterhout, Susan Parks-Spencer, Dustin Seaton, Jackie Stites

University of Arkansas Libraries

FLASHBACK

Journal of the Washington County Historical Society
Preserving Our Past for Future Generations

Volume 65 Spring 2015 Number 1

CONTENTS

The WPA Slave Narrative of R.C. Smith .....Page 3
Interviewed by Jessie R. Ervin; notes by Charlie Alison

The Poorhouse Saga of Samuel Stone, Insane .....Page 16
By Cheri Coley

Welch Grape Juice Co. to Open Springdale Plant ....Page 26

Image: Ozark Broom Co., Summers ..... Page 28-29
Courtesy of Ray Hanley

Oaks Cemetery Nomination .....Page 30

Photo by Charlie Alison

On the Cover: The tombstone of Sophronia Buchanan, wife of A.W. Buchanan at Oaks Cemetery in Fayetteville. Sophronia was born May 1, 1862, and died June 19, 1918. Sophronia and A.W. Buchanan were listed in the 1900 U.S. Census as living in Prairie Township and having four children: three daughters, Josie, 8; Lelia, 6; Nellie May, 3; and one son, Leslie, 2. A.W. Buchanan was listed as a farmer, and Sophronia was listed as a wash woman.

The WPA Slave Interview of R.C. Smith

EDITOR'S NOTE

When R.C. Smith, a former resident of Fayetteville, was interviewed as part of the Works Progress Administration's oral history interviews, he was 96 years old and living in Alderson, Oklahoma. A worker for the WPA named Jessie R. Ervin interviewed Smith on Dec. 8, 1937.[1]

Smith was one of many men and women who had been slaves prior to the end of the Civil War and who were interviewed about their lives, both as slaves and during the intervening 70 years.

The questions that interviewers asked were often from a recommended list: what foods do you remember, do you recall any songs, what remedies were used back then, what kind of work did you do, what was your master like?

Many of the former slaves who were interviewed were quite young when slavery ended. Between trying to remember a childhood from 70 years gone by and having perceived slavery through the eyes of a child, many of the interviews can only be considered within that context. R.C. Smith, however, would have been in his early 20s when the war ended and says that he was 17 or 18 when President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

Another concern with the WPA interviews is that they occurred during the height of the Great Depression. The context of that period meant that some interviewees might well have been living in poverty and, therefore, their memories of childhood and slavery might be affected by their current circumstances.

Some of the interviews also suffer from attempts by interviewers or transcribers of the interviews to write in dialect or to give phonetic spellings.

Last, some interviewees might have perceived the WPA workers to be agents of the federal government, and so they might have answered in ways that they thought would please the interviewers in hopes that what they said would help their own plight.

These latter concerns don't seem to be evident in R.C. Smith's responses to the questions. He doesn't present an idealized version of his early life, but instead seems rather to relate straightforwardly those memories he does recall. Some of his recollections are not quite correct. For instance, his date for when slaves in Texas were emancipated was June 19, 1867, rather than the real date of June 19, 1865. In other respects, though, his memory seems to be on target with events of the time. Many of the people whom he mentions in his interview, however, were prominent people in the Cherokee Nation.

The age of Smith's parents and grandparents would indicate that they were very likely old enough to have come west with the Cherokees when the nation was forced out of Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina by the American government and removed to the Indian Territory. He does not mention where he was born or when, nor does he mention his wife's name. His father's name is mentioned obliquely when Judge West asks if he is "one of Dave's boys."

A transcript of is interview starts with the recitation of one of the songs that he remembered:

> One morning in May
> I heard a poor rebel say:
> "The federal's a home guard
> Dat called me from home: ..."
>
> I wish I was a merchant
> And I could write a fine hand,
> I'd write a love letter
> So she would understand.

I wish I had a drink of brandy,
And a drink of wine,
To drink wid dat sweet gal
How I wish dat she was mine.

If I had a drink of brandy
No longer would I roam,
I'd drink it wid dat gal of mine
Dat wishes me back home.

I've heard the soldiers sing that song a heap of times. They sing it kind of lonesome like and I guess it sort of made them home sick to sing it. Us niggers learned to sing it and it is about the only one I can sing yet. I remembers the words to another one we used to sing but I've forgot the tune but the words go like this:

Old man, old man,
Your hair is getting gray,
I'd foller you ten thousand miles
To hear your banjo play.

I never was much at singing though. I guess my voice is just about wore out just like my body.

I've always had good health and I never had a doctor in my life. In the last three or four years I've had some pains from rheumatism. I think all our sickness is brought on by the kidneys and I made my own kidney medicine and allus stayed well.

I used to get a weed called hoarhound, it grows everywhere wild. I'd make a tea and drink it, and it would cure the worst kind of kidney ailment: beach tree leaves tea and sumac seed tea also were good kidney medicines. These were old Indian remedies.

My father was half Cherokee Indian. His father was bought by an Indian woman and she took him for her husband. She died and my grandfather, father and Auntie were bought by John Ross.[2] He later bought up a lot of land claims from some Indian

people named Tibets and he paid for the claims with slaves. My father was in this trade. Ross kept my grandfather till he died and he gave my auntie to one of his sisters. All of her offspring live up around Tahlequah now. My father played with Cornelius Boudinot when he was a child.[3] Cherokee Bill was my second cousin.[4]

My auntie hated being a slave. She had to take care of the babies on the farm while their mothers worked in the field. Sometimes she would git cranky and wouldn't speak to anybody for a week. This only made it harder for her but I guess she just couldn't help it.

My father was a big man, he weighed around 225 lbs. He had never been treated bad and it was purty hard for him to git used to being a slave. His master ordered him to be whupped and he wouldn't stand for it and he put up such a fight that they had him took to Fayettesville, Arkansas, and put in jail and held them there for sale. Didn't anybody want a big unruly ox of a nigger so he stayed in jail a long time.

Presley R. Smith was the jailer and he was kind to Pappy.[5] They was two outlaws in jail at the same time pappy was and one day he overheard them plotting to git out. They planned that when the jailer brought their meal to them that they would overpower him and take his keys and git out.

Sure enough when he come in that evening one of them knocked him down. No sooner than he done it my pappy waded in and took them by surprise and laid them both out. He kept them both from escaping and killing the jailer. Smith went right out and hunted up pappy's owner and give him $600 for him.

Pappy's owner was more than glad to sell him as he considered him a bad old darky. Smith took him home and never from that day on did he have a bit of trouble with him. He never allowed his grown slaves to be whupped and when they went away from home he didn't write them no passes either. The patrollers didn't pay them no mind for they knowed Smith took care of his own niggers. We was all known as "Smith's free niggers."

My mother was give to Smith by his father when he married.

Our family didn't live in no quarters but we lived in one open room of the big house.[6] The house was built in the shape of an "L." A big white house, three rooms across the front and three in the "L. " We lived in the back one of the "L." A big gallery ran clean across the front and one went down the "L." The kitchen was away from the house but was joined to it by a plank walk. All around the house was big trees what we called "Heavenly trees" but the right name for them was Paradise trees. They made a heavy shade. Old Mistress had lots of purty flowers and they was a row of cedars from the gate to the house.[7] The house was built in a rocky place and up above the house pappy built a stone wall and we had a garden on the level place along side of the wall. We called it the high place. There was enough level ground for a nice size garden. We also had a peach and apple orchard. We raised figs, too.

Master Smith always remembered about my father saving his life and he was good to him. Pappy learned the stone mason's trade and old Master let him hire out and he let him keep the money that he made.

Old Master's children went to school and they would come home and try to learn us everything they learned at school. I couldn't be still long enough to learn anything but my pappy and mammy both learned to read and write.

Old Master Smith was elected County Clerk and he held the office till the War broke out and for a while after. There wasn't much work for my pappy to do as he just looked after the garden and yard so old Master let him work at his trade as stone mason all over the country. Old Master was reasonably wealthy and very prominent. He owned a big farm but it wasn't all in cultivation. He had nine slaves besides our family and they worked the farm. Pappy took care of the yard, garden and barn and mammy done the cooking. Us children run errands, minded the flies off the table at meal-time and also minded them off Old Mistress when she took her nap. We also brought the cows or calves and as soon as we got big enough we helped mammy with the milking. None of us worked very hard except mother. I think back and I

don't hardly remember ever seeing her setting down unless she was sewing or weaving. Poor thing, hard work was all she ever knowed.

My master refugeed me to Texas at the outbreak of the War. We went down in the winter and it was awful cold. We crossed the Indian Territory and the snow was two foot deep. We went out in west Texas on a ranch. The Kiowa and Comanche Indians give them a lot of trouble. They was always slipping into the country and stealing horses and cattle.

The owner of the ranch had a boy named Charley. He and I would ride, rope calves, and play around. We had good times together. His father would let us go with the boys sometimes when they went on round-ups.

One day the men started out to round up and brand the young stock and we wanted to go. Charley's father, for some reason, did not want us to go and he told us to stay at home. After they left he saddled his horse and started after them. He said that his father would let him stay with the outfit if he just caught up with them. I wouldn't go with him so he went without me. I can still see him as he turned and waved to me just before he rode out of sight. I couldn't help wishing that I could go with him but I dassent disobey the Master.

Nobody ever saw Charley again. They tracked his horse for several miles. That was easy as his horse had shoes on it. His horse was running and there was other tracks along with his that we supposed belong to a band of Kiowas or Cheyennes. They were hidden and the cowboys passed them but when Charley come by they surprised him and finally captured him. I'm sure they killed him for he would a come back if he could have. I always wished I'd gone with him for they wouldn't bother a nigger but they sure had it in for white folks. I missed my friend so I could hardly stay on at the ranch. I never had no good times any more.

My Master went to Clarksville, Texas and bought a herd of cattle and I went over there and we took them to the Indian Territory around Webbers Falls in the Cherokee Nation and herded them there. I was there till the close of the war. My father

and a lot more of the slaves of the neighbors around Fayettesville had slipped away and joined the northern army in Kansas. They belonged to the first and second Kansas regiment.[8] They heard that if they would join up with the Yankees they would be set free so that's what they done.

Father died in Lawrence, Kansas at the close of the War. He and Mother never saw each other again after he enlisted. He died with pneumonia. Never got to enjoy his freedom after he fought so hard for it.

I was 17 or 18 years old when Abe Lincoln declared us free but I never got my freedom till August 4, 1866. Slaves in Texas never got their freedom till June 19, 1867.[9]

We had an awful hard time after the War. My brother and I got a job in the Indian Territory as cowboys and we sent our money to mother when we could. She was an extra good cook and she managed to make a living for herself and my two sisters. Brother and I had a few head of stock that we sold and we bought her a house in Fayettesville and after that we got along purty well. We had a home to go to when we wanted to. I was a purty bad boy. I knowed a lot of outlaws. Knowed Belle Starr well.[10] I never got mixed up in any of their shady dealings though. It's a wonder that I didn't though as there was plenty of it going on and I was a regular little dare-devil.

I was always so pert that it seemed like everybody wanted me to work for them. I never did have no trouble getting a job. I never had nobody that I ever worked for to turn me off.

There was an old man in Fayettesville, old Judge West, that we always sort of shunned.[11] He and my father had a little trouble once and we supposed he would hold it agin us boys. My father 's master took the job of putting a fence around the court house and grounds and he had my pappy out doing the job. Old Judge West come out and found fault with the way he was setting the posts. A nigger wasn't supposed to talk back but Pappy got back at the Judge. The old Judge got mad and said that he was going to have him whupped and he went to pappy's master and told him that he had to have him whupped publicly. Old Master wouldn't

do it and for a while there was a sight of hard feelings over it.

One day after the surrender I met up with old Judge West. He asked me who my master was and I told him Presley R. Smith. He said, "Oh yes, you are one of Dave's boys." I told him that I was and he said, "He had a heap more sense than that master of his."

Jest before the War they had a heap of trouble with the Underground Railroaders. Nearly everybody lost one or two slaves. Old Judge West had a sight of vexation about that time. I remember he lost one of his men who got clean away to the north and he couldn't git him back. Another one decided he would try his hand at getting away so he stole a horse and a suit of clothes and away he went. He got away to free territory and if the fool had had sense enough sense to a sold the horse they never would a done nothing about it but he strutted around with a fine horse and a fine broadcloth suit and his master told them that he'd stole the horse so they had to let him go back with his master. Judge West was purty hard on his slaves.

As I said I was a cousin to Cherokee Bill. He was a good feller when he was sober but he was hard to git along with when he was drinking. He always carried a pistol and he was a perfect shot so he was dangerous and everybody was scared to death of him. I could always handle him and git him to go home with me but I wasn't always with him.

Bill's trouble come about through ignorance. They was at a dance and several federal officers come there looking for a man. They finally got into a battle and one of the laws was killed. There was about thirty men in the battle and all was shooting to kill but Bill was known as a good shot and everybody said that ever time he shot somebody fell and they accused Bill of murder. He started scouting around first one place and then another. I still say they wouldn't a done nothing to him if he hadn't a shot that blacksmith. He went into town to have his horse shod and he didn't have the money to pay for it and the blacksmith wanted to hold the horse and Bill shot and killed him.[12]

Bill's sweetheart lived in the neighborhood and he'd slip back once in a while to see her. Clint Scales, a colored deputy,

said he would arrest him. Clint come to the girl's house and found Bill there. He never said anything to Bill about going to arrest him and they was setting there talking. Bill stooped over to get a coal of fire to light a cigarette and Clint hit him over the head with a fire stick and knocked him out and took him to jail in Fort Smith.[13]

He might of got out of this if he hadn't shot the jailer at Fort Smith. After he had been in jail about a month his sister managed to slip a gun in to him. If he had waited till the jailer brought his supper to him and of taken the keys away from him he might of got away but he took the gun and tried to make the jailer open the door and let him out but the jailer wouldn't do it so he shot and killed him.

They hung Bill at Fort Smith and when they asked him if he had anything to say he said, "I didn't come out here to talk, I come out here to die." He was plucky to the last.

We had a lot of trouble girting things settled after the War. I remember some excitement that we had in Arkansas over a governor's election. It caused what we called State War. I was about nineteen at the time and I was eager to enlist but they didn't need me. Baxter, a Democrat, and Brooks, Republican, was both running for governor. When the election was held there was so much fraud that you couldn't tell who was elected. Sides was drawn and they built up breastworks there on the State house grounds at Little Rock. They actually had war. The state house is right on the river and a steam boat, the Hallis, belonging to a man named Houston went to Fort Smith and come back loaded with Baxter men. Brooks men cracked down on the boat with infantry rifles-these rifles shot a ball as big as the end of your finger and there was so many holes shot in the boat that it sunk and Houston was killed. Finally the United States militia was sent down and after about two months they settled it peaceably. Baxter was declared governor and Brooks was appointed postmaster.[14]

I went back and forth from the Cherokee Nation to Fayettesville until my mother died. Then I married and settled

there till I decided to go to Lehigh, Indian Territory and dig coal. My wife died there in 1900 and I've been batching ever since.[15]

After my wife died I couldn't hardly do my work. I would go down into the pit and try to load coal and I'd have a room full but I couldn't load one car. I was so dissatisfied that I decided to go down to the mountains by myself for a while. I went down into the McGee Mountains the other side of Atoka.

I am a prophet, yessum, the kind you read about in the Bible. I was born one. I can see and talk with hosts of people. AmHouf, a famous prophet in London, say that I was born to be a prophet but I had a poor chance. I wrote to AmHouf and kept up a correspondence wtth him till his death.

I wandered around in them mountains for days. I never seen a varmit, not even a wolf. One night I took a notion I'd go home. When I come to Boggy, just below Atoka, I started to walk across on a footlog. Just as I started to step on it I heard somebody say, "Look out, you'll fall." I looked around and I couldn't see nobody. I started two or three times to cross and every ttme I d hear them say, Look out, you'll fall." I turned and went to the bridge about a quarter of a mile down the stream. I crossed and come back up to the foodog. I could still hear people talking but I couldn't see nobody.

By this time I done got hungry so I went up to a house to try to buy something to eat. The man told me where there was a store and I went there and bought some sardines and crackers. The storekeeper told me if I could course my way through the wood that it would be a lot nearer. I went on about a mile and built a fire and camped for the night.

Next morning I started on and all of a sudden I heard a Wham. It sounded like somebody loading cross ties. Purty soon I seen about twenty-five or thirty people. One real old man and a woman in a wagon with wood on it. I walked on to meet them and the man hailed me with the Odd Fellows sign. The woman had on a gray coat and the man snatched it off her and put it on his shoulders and the woman disappeared. I walked up and tried to touch him but couldn't. Just then I realized that I had seen

Father Abraham-Yessum, the one we read about in the Bible. I looked around and recognized my father and a lot more people. Some of them had just been buried but my father had been dead ever since the War. I didn't talk to them as they all disappeared.

When I got home I had a letter from AmHouf saying that he needed me. I answered his letter but another prophet answered me and told me AmHouf was dead.

I see things all the time. I'm in what they calls "firey trivets." I can foresee and foretell. Moses and the old prophets was in the firey trivets. I'm a natural born treasure hunter. I don't need no instruments to find treasure. I can walk over it at night and tell where it is located. I'm trying to raise one-hundred dollars right now to try to finance a trip for me on a treasure hunt. I know just where it is located but it will take a hundred dollars to git it out.

I ain't been able to do nothing for a month on account of the hosts that surround me. Their presence is so powerful over me that they weaken me.

Prayer and faith can overcome everything. Remember Jesus Christ was called Bellzebub but that didn't make it true.

NOTES

1. R.C. Smith is likely Robert Smith, who shows up as a miner in the 1910 U.S. Census of Phillips, Coal County, Oklahoma. Phillips was next to town of Lehigh.
2. John Ross, also known as Guwisguwi, was the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1828–1866, when he died. He visited Fayetteville on at least a couple of occasions.
3. Elias Cornelius Boudinot was born in Rome, Georgia, in 1828. He was about a year old when his family came west as a result of the Cherokee Nation being forced out of their homeland in Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. His father was killed in 1839 by a rival faction of the Cherokees, and most of the family was sent east to live with his mother's family. He returned to Arkansas in the 1850s, settling in Fayetteville in 1853, where he read law. In 1859, he began co-publishing *The Arkansian* newspaper, leaving in 1861 to edit the True Democrat in Little Rock. He served as secretary of the Secession Convention and then served in the Confederate Army after secession.
4. Cherokee Bill, whose real name was Crawford Goldsby, was an outlaw whose gang went on a two-year crime spree in the Indian Territory. He was about 25 years younger than R.C. Smith.
5. Presley R. Smith served as county sheriff from 1840 to 1844, then as county clerk and circuit clerk from 1846 to 1862, and then as county clerk alone from 1866 to 1868 and from 1872 to 1880. As with many slaves, R.C. Smith's father

probably took the last name of his master as his own surname.

6. Presley R. Smith and his family owned the block of land bounded by Mountain, West, School and Center streets, just north of the present-day Fayetteville Public Library.
7. "Old Mistress" is a reference to Lucretia Foster Smith, who taught at the Fayetteville Female Seminary for many years before the death of its founder, Sophia Sawyer, and became its principal after her death. The seminary was catty-corner across the intersection of Mountain and School.
8. The 1st Regiment Kansas Volunteer Infantry (Colored) was organized at Fort Scott, Kansas, in early 1863 while the 2nd Regiment was organized the following November. Both regiments served on the frontier and were the first African American troops to engage in battle during the Civil War. The regiments fought in the Battle of Honey Springs in the Indian Territory as well as at Baxter Springs, Poison Springs and Jenkins Ferry in Arkansas.
9. The correct date of emancipation in Texas was June 19, 1865. The date is now celebrated in the African American community as Juneteenth.
10. Belle Starr, whose full name was Myra Maybelle Shirley Reed Starr, was associated with outlaws along the border between Arkansas and the Indian Territory, including the James and Younger gang and the Starr clan. She was killed in 1889.
11. The identity of this judge is unknown so far. It might be William West, who was a Washington County justice of the peace between 1835 and 1873 for the Marrs Hill Township. Smith might have recalled the judge's name incorrectly. J.M. Wilson served as circuit judge in 1859-1860, and James D. Walker served as circuit judge from 1862 to 1865. Walker's father-in-law, David Walker was well known as a Supreme Court justice.
12. Crawford Goldsby, the outlaw known as Cherokee Bill, was sentenced to death by U.S. District Judge Isaac Parker and hanged on March 17, 1896. He was buried at the Cherokee National Cemetery at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory.
13. Goldsby was captured in much the way that Smith relates. Clint Scales helped Ike Rogers, a former marshall who arranged a meeting between Goldsby and a young woman, Maggie Glass, who was turning 17 and in whom he was interested. Rogers and Scales together tackled Goldsby and handcuffed him before taking him to Fort Smith.
14 The Brooks-Baxter War occurred during April and May 1874 between the supporters of gubernatorial rivals Joseph Brooks and Elisha Baxter. Most of the armed conflict occurred at Little Rock, but it spilled over to numerous areas across the state, including Fayetteville, where supporters of Brooks took guns and ammunition from the new armory at the Arkansas Industrial University.
15. The 1910 U.S. Census lists a Robert Smith, described as a black, widowed miner, in the survey of Phillip, Oklahoma, a community just south of Coalgate and north of Lehigh.

Join the Washington County Historical Society

Become a member by filling out the form below and sending it with check to:

Washington County Historical Society
118 E. Dickson Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Name_____Phone _____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Email_____

Membership Levels (check one)

- ❑ $15 Senior, Student, Public Libraries
- ❑ $25 General Membership
- ❑ $50 Trail Blazer
- ❑ $100 Explorer
- ❑ $250 Wagon Master
- ❑ $500 Pioneer
- ❑ $1,000 Statesman
- ❑ $5,000 Empire Builder

Washington County Historical Society is a 501c3 nonprofit corporation. Gifts above membership of $25 are tax deductible.

The Poor House Saga of Samuel Stone, Insane

By Cheri Coley

While researching Ambrose Clark, my great-great grandfather, one of the earliest settlers in Washington County Arkansas, I found several records mentioning a Samuel Stone. But who was this Samuel Stone and how was he connected to my ancestor? Where did Sam Stone come from and how did he end up in Washington County?

To provide a little background, I first looked at the 1840 United States Census, which had the following entry for an S. B. Stone:

> 1840 United States Census
> Brush Creek, Washington County, Arkansas
> S.B. Stone
> 1 free white male under age 5
> 2 free white females under age 5
> 1 free white male age 20-29
> 1 free white female age 20-29

Not sure whether this S. B. Stone was the Sam Stone I was looking for or not, I then checked the 1850 Census. There was a Sam Stone in it who was born in Tennessee about 1820. In 1840, he would have been around 20 years of age.

I also knew that my ancestor Ezra Clark, brother of Ambrose Clark, lived in the Brush Creek Township around 1850. And, according to the 1850 census, Ezra was in fact living in Brush Creek Township. By 1860, he had relocated his family to Parker County, Texas. Ezra's gravestone in Parker County shows that he was born April 11, 1828 and married Livonia Hash, daughter of

Alvin and Ester Drake Hash, about 1843.

From this point, Sam Stone's story can be traced in a series of county probate and other records. For example, the Washington County Probate Record, A-503, dated April 20, 1847, declaring that Stone was insane and required a guardian reads as follows (spellings left as written in the old record):

> Upon the petition of E. O'Brian Sherriff filed in court today setting forth that Samuel Stone of Washington County is of unsound mind and who is wholy incapable of conducting his affairs and of taking care of himself. Then upon it is ordered by the court that the Sherriff of Washington County bring in the said Samuel Stone and to summons a jury to try the said Samuel Stone. The Sherriff returned in to court the following jury to wit, R. A. Sharp, P. Butt, James C. Bell, Peter Mankins, James Reit, W.R Cunningham, Thomas W. Pollard, John Cline A.S. Denney, Thomas Wilford, John Jones and John Kinnebrugh, twelve good and lawful men of the bailiwick who bring a elected true and sworn to inquire whether Samuel Stone is of sound mind and memory and capable of self-government and managing his own affairs after hearing the evidence and due consideration thereof return into court the following verdict to wit. We the jury consider Samuel Stone insane. A S Denny foreman of the jury. It is ordered by the court that the said Samuel Stone have a guardian appointed for him to take care of his person and property.

Two days later, Ezra Clark was named Stone's Guardian per Washington County Probate Record A-509, dated April 22, 1847. The Record read:

> And now on this day, Ezra Clark and filed his bond as Guardian of the person and of Samuel Stone who is declared to be of unsound mind, with John Trammel

and Samuel Hanna as his security in the sum of five hundred dollars which is approved by the court.

A continuance of this Guardianship was entered by way of Washington County Probate Record B-006, July 21, 1847:

> And now on this day came Ezra Clark as the Guardian of Samuel Stone a lunatic and filed his annual account current for the settlement of said estate which is continued until next term of this court without future action thereon.

Later that fall, Ezra Clark filed to relinquish his Guardianship of Stone because he could no longer afford to do so. Washington County Probate Record B-026, dated October 20, 1847 provides the details:

> And now on this day came Ezra Clark as Guardian of Samuel Stone and having at the last term of this court filed his account current for the settlement of said estate and no exceptions having been filed then to or any other item thereof the court after a careful examination ___ than said estate is insufficient to support aforesaid Stone and that the assets of said estate is exhausted. It is Thompson named by the court that the said Ezra be and he is himself allowed the sum of seventeen dollars out of the county treasury for the keeping the said Stone the last two months and that said account be allowed confirmed and _ of record and the said Clark be discharged from the guardianship.

The specifics of the transaction were listed in Accounts Current, B-235-236:

> Amount of the sale of the personal property of Samuel Stone an insane person made by me on the 6th

day of May 1847
McBoyd _ to _
Brown horse and Iron __ $8.75
1 filly to Ambrose Clark $20.37
Ambrose Clark to our __ 37 ½ cents
Total $29.50
Debit against said estate one ape in favor of William Blackburn $2.00
For keeping said Stone 13 weeks at 1.50 $19.50
For keeping Sam Stone 13 weeks at 2.00 per week $26.00
Total $47.50
(-) $29.50
Total $18.00
Recorded November 2, 1847 P. R---- Clark (Presly R. Smith was County Clerk at the time)

Before poor farms were established in the counties, paupers were housed with low bidders. In 1851, Arkansas legislature allowed each county to buy land and build buildings for the poor. At this point in the saga, Ambrose Clark took over the care of Samuel Stone. According to
Washington County Records C-058, July 9, 1849:

> Ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be allowed eight dollars for keeping S. Stone a pauper for four weeks in the year 1849

Washington County Record C-060, July 9, 1849 gives further details:

> As now on this day came Ambrose Clark and Daniel Boone and brought here into court Samuel Stone whereby it was shown and satisfactory proven to the court that said Samuel Stone is insane and wholy unable to maintain himself and that Stone has no estate nor any means of support whatever. In consideration

--- it is ordered that Stone be and he is hereby declared to be a pauper.

And therefore Ambrose Clark contracted and agreed with the court to keep, board and cloth the said Stone for the next three months for which said court is to allow said Clark twenty-four dollars.

Two follow up records give more information about the switch in Guardianship of Sam Stone and the remuneration to Ambrose Clark as well:

Washington County Records C-068, October 8, 1849:

On motion it is ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be and hereby allowed the sum of twenty-four dollars for keeping and taking care of Samuel Stone, a pauper for the last as per contract made.

Washington County Records C-080, October 11, 1849:

And now on this day came Ambrose Clark in open court and contracted with the county over and to take in Samuel Stone a pauper and keep board and __ the said Stone for the next three months for sum of twenty four dollars and the said Clark further agrees to treat the said Stone in a humane manner.

The census for the following year shows that Stone's original Guardian Ezra Clark and his family were still in the area:

1850 United States Census, Arkansas, Washington Co, Brush Creek

Ezra Clarke
Levonia Clarke
Alvin Clarke
Silas Clarke
Celina Clarke

By 1860, however, Ezra had moved his family to Parker County, Texas where he lived out the rest of his life, dying in 1882.

The 1850 United States Census for Arkansas, Washington Co, Richland Township provides a record of Ambrose Clark, his family, and their "lunatic" charge, Samuel Stone:

Ambrose Clarke born in Ohio
Salina Clarke
Mary Clarke
Frances Clarke
William Clarke
Samuel Stone born abt 1820 in Tennessee

Subsequent 1850 records show the amount the county gave Ambrose Clark for caring for Sam Stone:

Washington County Court Records C-093, January 15, 1850

Ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be and he is allowed the sum of twenty four dollars for keeping Samuel Stone a pauper the last three months again able to a previous contract with the county court.

Washington County Court Records C-134, April 9, 1850

Ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be and he is allowed the sum of twenty four dollars for keeping Samuel Stone a pauper for the last three months.

Washington Court Records C-172, July 11, 1850

Ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be and he is allowed the sum of twenty four dollars for keeping Sam Stone a pauper of the county of Washington for the last three months.

Washington Court Records C-180, October 16, 1850

Ordered by the court that Ambrose Clark be and he

> is allowed the sum of twenty four dollars for keeping Sam Stone a pauper of the county of Washington for the last three months.

Figures for the year 1851 are similar to those in 1850 but one record, Washington County Court Record C-234, dated April 16, 1851, shows that the business of caring for paupers like Sam Stone was actually done by way of competitive bid:

> And now on this day the court procured to let Samuel Stone a pauper to the lowest bidder when Ambrose Clark became the lowest bidder for the price of sum of six dollars per month for the period of twelve months the said Ambrose Clark agrees to feed, cloth and __ for the said Samuel Stone and treat him in a humane manner for the said aforesaid sum the county finds the material to make his clothing and pay the said Ambrose Clark quarterly in county funds.

In January of 1852, Washington County Judge Jonathan Newman, who served from 1844 to 1852, appointed a committee to select and purchase a poor farm for the county. The committee consisted of James P. Neal, A. W. Brownlee and William M. Bowers. When they met in April, they reported the purchase of the farm of Elias Muncey in Township 17, Range 29 West consisting of 80 acres for the sum of $350. This was located west of and across Highway 45 from where Son's Chapel is currently locate. The court approved this purchase.

Also at this session, the court ordered the erection of two additional log buildings on the Muncey property. The two buildings were to be located near a large spring and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Muncey was designated as the caretaker's home.

One of the two log buildings was to house paupers of "good and sound mind." The second was to house the "weak and feeble-minded." Both buildings were one-story and had a fireplace at each end. This location would house the Washington County

poorhouse from 1852 to 1896.

Washington County Court Record C-301, April 16, 1852 listed the paupers to be taken care of, including Sam Stone:

> Be it remembered that Daniel Stonecipher, Willis Privett, Old Simon, Sylvai Simon, his wife, William Smith, Samuel Stone, H. Durham, Thomas Mullens, Sarah Mullens, his wife, Emeline Smith, Polly Carlisle have been reported to the county court under the provisions of the second Section of chapter 118 of the digest of the State of Arkansas and by the county court duly declared paupers of Washington County, it is therefore ordered by said county court that the sheriff of Washington County to deliver the above named paupers over to the keeper of the poorhouse of said county of Washington there to remain under the control of the aforesaid keeper until discharged by the order of county court.

It was also about this time that the County Court appointed John R. Glazebrook to be the County's first poorhouse commissioner.

Nothing more is given about Sam Stone until Washington County Records D-155, October 15, 1858:

> On motion it is ordered by the court that if any person shall make application and agree to feed and clothe a certain Samuel Stone who is now a pauper in the poor house for his labor. The poorhouse keeper is hereby directed and agreed to deliver the said Samuel Stone to such person as afforded that will save the county of all expense as aforesaid.

Finally, in 1859, Samuel Stone somehow is declared sane and able to care for himself. Washington County Records D-253, May 17, 1859 tell us the story:

> And now on this day is appearing to the satisfaction of the court then from information that one Samuel Stone who was some years previous to the declared by the court to be a pauper in consequence of insanity of mind by the court placed in the poorhouse for maintenance has become basically sane and competent to maintain himself by labor. It is therefore considered by the court the Samuel Stone be discharged from and said poorhouse and be declared by this court to be no longer a charge upon the county of Washington as a pauper.

There is no further mention of Sam Stone in the county records between May 17, 1859 and May 11, 1861. However, in the 1860 United States Census, Arkansas, Washington, Prairie Township, the following are listed for Household# 178: John Glazebrook, age 60, and several others in this family unit. Household# 179 is Henry Prior, age 45, and Emily Smith, age 40. Household# 180 is Sam Stone, age 40. The last three people listed, Henry Prior, Emily Smith and Sam Stone, have the words "insane pauper" written at the margin of the census.

Whether he is any longer considered "insane" or not, Sam Stone shows up in the Washington County Records D-425, May 11, 1861, which also shows James R. Rainwater as receiving monies for care of the paupers:

> Ordered that James R. Rainwater be and is allowed the sum of $108.00 for keeping the paupers at the poorhouse from the April Court 1861 until the 8th of July 1861

To keeping J. Pryor from April to 8 July 1861	$24
To keeping E. Smith from April to 8 July 1861	$22
To keeping Melton Foster from April to 8 July 1861	$24
To keeping Sam Stone from April to 8 July 1861	$22
To keeping two children from 9 June 1861	$16
Total	$108

Washington County Records D-434, October 15, 1861 provides even more specifics on the care of the paupers:

Ordered that James Rainwater be and he is allowed the following amount for keeping the poorhouse feeding paupers work and labor done on the farm since the last settlement time.

To Boarding Emeline Smith to this date	$22
To Boarding Samuel Stone to this date	$22
To boarding Henry Pryor to this date	$24
To boarding William Foster	$24
To boarding two children	$48
To boarding W, McPherson	$20
To boarding Eli Smith	$16
To furnish leather and mending shoes	$2
Making one pair of pants	.50
Making one shirt	.25
Making one bedtick	$1
To 250 rails made and put up	5
To furnish 2 bedquilts to pauper	$10
To waiting on Milton Foster when sick	$3
To be issued in such demonstration as he may desire	
$197.75	

In Washington County Records D-455, January 15, 1862 we see our last listing for Sam Stone:

Ordered that James Rainwater be and he is allowed the following amounts for keeping the poorhouse, feeding paupers, work and labor done on the farm since the last settlement to wit:

Henry Pryor	$24
Milton Foster	$22
Samuel Stone	$22
Emiline Smith	$22
Eli Smith	$24
B. Smith	$24
Total	$140

Records show that James Rainwater had been appointed keeper of the poor house by at least 1862. The previous keeper, John R. Glazebrook, died in December 1862.

With the advent of the Civil War, Washington County Court records end about this time and were not picked back up until 1865. By then, Sam Stone, "lunatic pauper," is supposed to have died. He is not found in the 1870 or any subsequent Washington County Census.

Welch Grape Juice Co. to Open Springdale Plant

The magazine *Better Fruit*, published in Portland, Oregon, included the following note in its March 1921, Vol. 15, No. 9 issue on page 19:

The Welch Grape Juice Company announces that it will build a grape juice factory at Springdale, Arkansas, to be ready for operation in 1922-23. The first investment in land and buildings will be about $300,000. It is the intention of the company to build additional units as fast as the growth of the acreage in the Ozark grape belt warrants. Farmers in the vicinity of Springdale have pledged themselves to plant 1,500 acres of grapes this year in addition to the acreage which the grape juice company has purchased.

Call for Submissions: Eighth Annual Prize

The Washington County Historical Society announces the eighth annual competition for the Walter J. Lemke Prize and the Lessie Stringfellow Reid Prize with a call for articles. Anyone interested in Washington County history, whether a professional or amateur historian, is encouraged to enter. Topics can be on any phase of Washington County's history or archeology, deal with an individual or institution connected with the county, and can address any time period.

A $250 prize is offered in each of two categories: the Walter J. Lemke Prize for best article about Washington County history with preference given for subjects outside of Fayetteville; and the Lessie Stringfellow Read Prize for best article about Fayetteville. Winners will be recognized at the society's annual meeting.

Manuscripts will be judged on their contribution to the expansion of the county's history; the originality of the subject; and, the use of primary and secondary sources. The manuscripts must be original material, and must not have been previously published; no more than 40 pages, typed, and double-spaced with endnotes included on separate, double-spaced pages, although they do not count toward the 40-page limit. The title page should contain the heading "WCHS PRIZE," the full title of the manuscript, the author's name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address.

Entries become the property of the Washington County Historical Society and will not be returned to the author. All submissions will be considered for publication in *Flashback*. The historical society reserves the right to award one or no prizes.

Copies of all entries in the Lemke Prize will be deposited with the Special Collections Department at the University of Arkansas Libraries. Entries may be mailed to Lemke Prize, Washington County Historical Society, 118 E. Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701, or e-mailed to charlie.alison@gmail.com by June 30, 2015.

For additional information on the prizes, please contact Charlie Alison at the above mailing address, at 575-6731 or at charlie.alison@gmail.com.

Members of the Hancock families gather on the boardwalk of the Ozark Broom Co. in Summers.

Courtesy of Ray Hanley

Nomination of Oaks Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places

EDITOR'S NOTE: Information below is excerpted from a nomination put forward by the Fayetteville Historic District Commission to nominate Oaks Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places. The cemetery was nominated for its local significance. The final form of the nomination was prepared by Callie Callie Williams, a national register historian for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Oaks Cemetery is located on property adjacent to the National Cemetery of Fayetteville, Arkansas. The cemetery is bounded on the west by South University Avenue and on the east by Dunn Avenue. The north boundary of the cemetery is the fence-line of the Fayetteville National Cemetery (NR 7.28.1999). A small residential block lies between the south boundary of the cemetery and West 13th Street. The cemetery is surrounded by a chain-link fence, with a single entrance to the east off of Dunn Avenue. The entrance is marked by a metal arch with the words "Oaks Cemetery" displayed along the arch. A small metal sign hangs below the arch with the words "EST. 1867" in negative. A painted wood sign featuring a large tree with the words "Oak Cemetery, Est. 1867" marks the entrance along Dunn Avenue. The cemetery is basically rectangular in shape and, generally speaking, the layout from the entrance off Dunn Street is east to west. The majority of the older graves are located in the eastern portion; new graves are more generally located in the western area.

The cemetery is mostly open lawn, with several large trees scattered throughout. The area has been recently cleaned of overgrowth. The cemetery site is located along the top of a hill

Photo by Charlie Alison

The sign at the east entrance to Oaks Cemetery, with a date of establishment of 1867. The name is alternately referred to as "Oak" or "Oaks" or occasionally "Twin Oaks" Cemetery.

at what was the southern edge of the early town of Fayetteville during the late 19th century. The land upon which Oaks Cemetery sits slopes gently to the south, away from its northern boundary with the Fayetteville National Cemetery. The slope along the west side of Oaks Cemetery is the most pronounced.

Oaks Cemetery, due to its age and use as an early African-American cemetery, includes many unmarked burials and

The pastoral hillside of Oaks Cemetery with oak, cedar and elm trees.

burials marked only with field stones. Several of these field-stone markers have been moved or lost over time. The following burial numbers include some burials known from historical evidence that are not marked as well as all known marked burials. Other unmarked and currently lost historical burials are undoubtedly located in Oaks Cemetery. Some of these most likely pre-date the earliest known grave which is dated 1884.

Photo by Charlie Alison

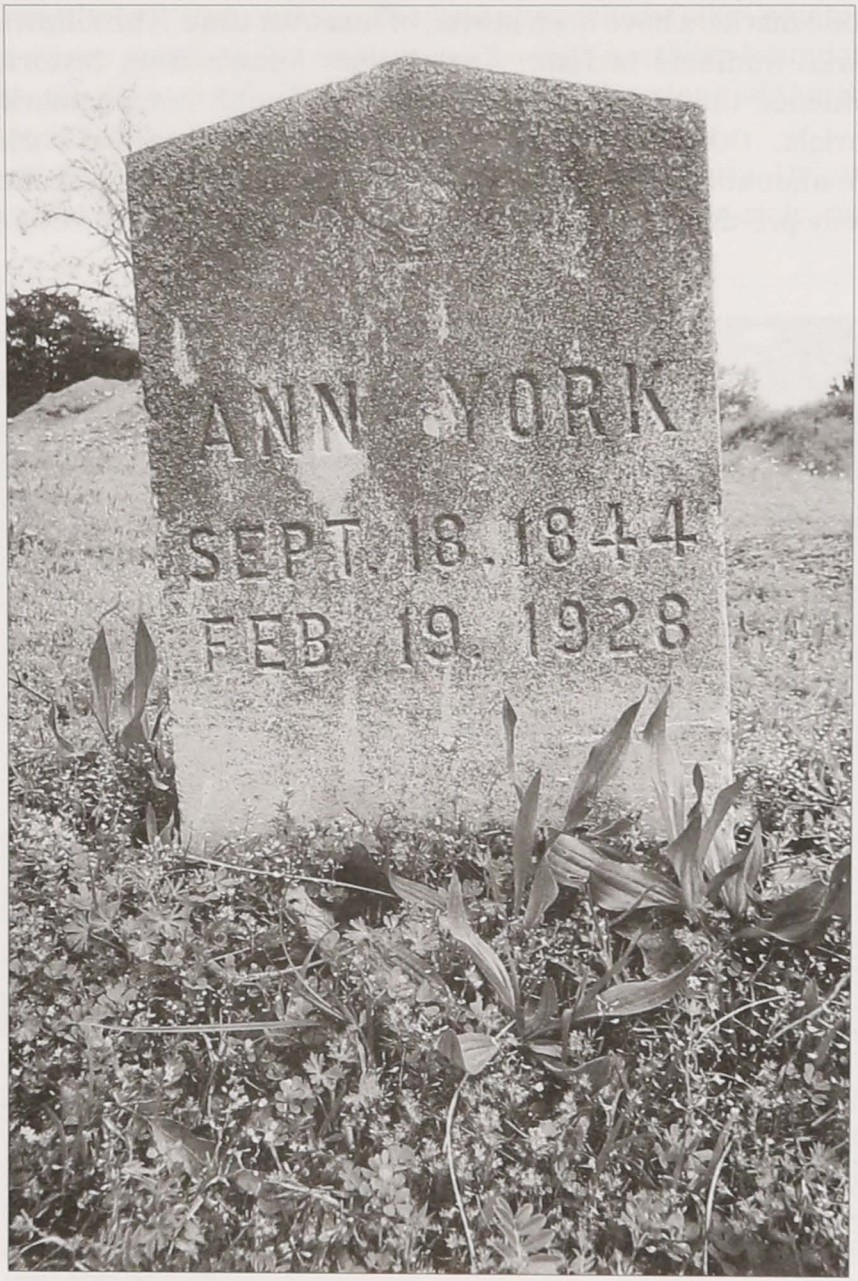

Photo by Charlie Alison

Ann York, Sept. 18, 1844, to Feb. 19, 1928.

The following total and historic burials was compiled by Walter Lemke, Mary Cantwell, George Crabtree, and Charlie Alison during field surveys in 1958, 1992, 1992-2010, and February 2010. The numerous surveys over time have resulted in varying counts for the total number of marked burials in Oaks Cemetery, due to the loss and degradation of stones and the addition of new burials. As of 2014, there are a limited number of new burials in the cemetery. The cemetery is still open and active; however, the cemetery has no room for future expansion in any direction, so new burials will be limited. In recent years some of the families have been able to afford better gravestones and there are a number of these that replace or augment older markers. A limited few of the new gravestones mark lost or originally unmarked graves.

As of 2010, 213 marked burials were noted in field surveys. The following are the known historic burials by decade:

Historic (Known) Burials by Decade:

1884-1890: 3
1891-1900: 4
1901-1910: 8
1911-1920: 9
1920-1930: 11
1931-1940: 14
1941-1950: 12
1951-1963: 6

Total of Known Historic Burials: 64
Unknown Number of Unmarked Historic Burials
Total of Marked Non-Historic Burials: 213
Total number of Burials: roughly 240

Several large gravestones in Oaks Cemetery include a repetitive band of linear detailing around the edges of the stones' bases. These include the headstones of Leone Denton (b. 1880, d. 1910), George Kidd (b. 1871, d. 1908), and Fannie Denton (b. 1844, d. 1917). As these are all roughly similar in age, they

Photo by Charlie Alison

Fannie Denton, wife of Jack Denton, born 1844, died May 10, 1917.

may have been created by the same craftsman or workshop. At this time, there are no known manufacturers or craftsmen directly linked to the historic stones in Oaks Cemetery. A few of the historic gravestones are elaborate in nature, and may have been created by a local or regional gravestone manufacturer or craftsman. Many of the other historic gravestones are small, with limited carved or stamped lettering. A few, mostly illegible, could have been done by amateur carvers, as home-made markers. Also, a few field-stones survive in the cemetery and could be marking burials.

One of the largest belongs to William Taylor (WM. Taylor) who was a member of the local Independent Order of Odd Fellows chapter, lodge number 2134 (or 213.4). Unfortunately, in 2014, this large gravestone was lying face-up on the ground. Other interesting symbols include the incised, intricate carving of a city-scape on the gravestone of Sophia Smith (b. 1877, d. 1928). Other common motifs, such as lambs, floral designs and geometric motifs are found on a few of the historic gravestones.

Summary:

Oaks Cemetery is located on property adjacent to the National Cemetery of Fayetteville, Arkansas. The cemetery is bounded on the west by South University Avenue and on the east by Dunn Avenue. The north boundary of the cemetery is the fence-line of the Fayetteville National Cemetery (NR 7.28.1999). A large percentage of the black citizens who lived and died in Fayetteville in the decades after the Civil War are buried in Oaks Cemetery. Because of slavery and the long shadow it has cast on the Fayetteville community and the country as a whole, Oaks Cemetery is unique because it served as the only area specifically set aside for African-American burials in the city. This site has remained an important part of the local community as a record of the newly free generations that survived the Civil War and their descendants in northwest Arkansas. Due to its importance as the only surviving evidence of the development of the African-American population of Fayetteville during the Civil War and in

Photo by Charlie Alison

Barely visible in the lichen-covered sandstone is the name Juda Qual.

the decades that followed, Oaks Cemetery is being nominated to the Arkansas Registerunder Criterion A with local significance.

Elaboration:

Fayetteville, Arkansas was first settled by George McGarrah and his sons in 1828. Also in 1828, Washington County was formed by carving out part of Lovely County, which was created in 1827. The current town of Fayetteville was originally known as Washington Courthouse. The name was changed to Fayetteville in 1829 when a local post office was established to eliminate any confusion with the county name or the town of Washington in Hempstead County. The town of Fayetteville was incorporated in 1841 and granted a city charter in 1859.

During the Civil War, the city of Fayetteville was occupied alternately by both sides with the Action at Fayetteville on April 18, 1863, being the only major battle to be fought within the city limits. Most of the city's businesses and residences were damaged or completely destroyed by fighting throughout the war and there was no local government other than military rule during the war itself. It wasn't until 1868 that local government was re-established under the legislative city charter of 1859.

After Fayetteville was rebuilt, several churches were established to meet the needs of the local population. One need, however, was not met. There were no established cemeteries that would accept African-Americans. This was remedied immediately after the end of the Civil War with the establishment of the only purposefully planned African-American cemetery in Fayetteville. In order to meet the need for a cemetery for the newly free population of the surrounding area, Stephen K. and Amanda Stone sold a plot of land on the southern edge of the city to the African-American community of Fayetteville on July 4, 1867, for ten dollars ($10). Stephen K. and Amanda Stone conveyed the property to Mary Lowe, Lafayette Gregg, E.D. Ham, Malloy, and William Storey to hold in trust "for the Colored peoples of Washington County" and that the land would be used "for the purposes of a Church or a school house for the

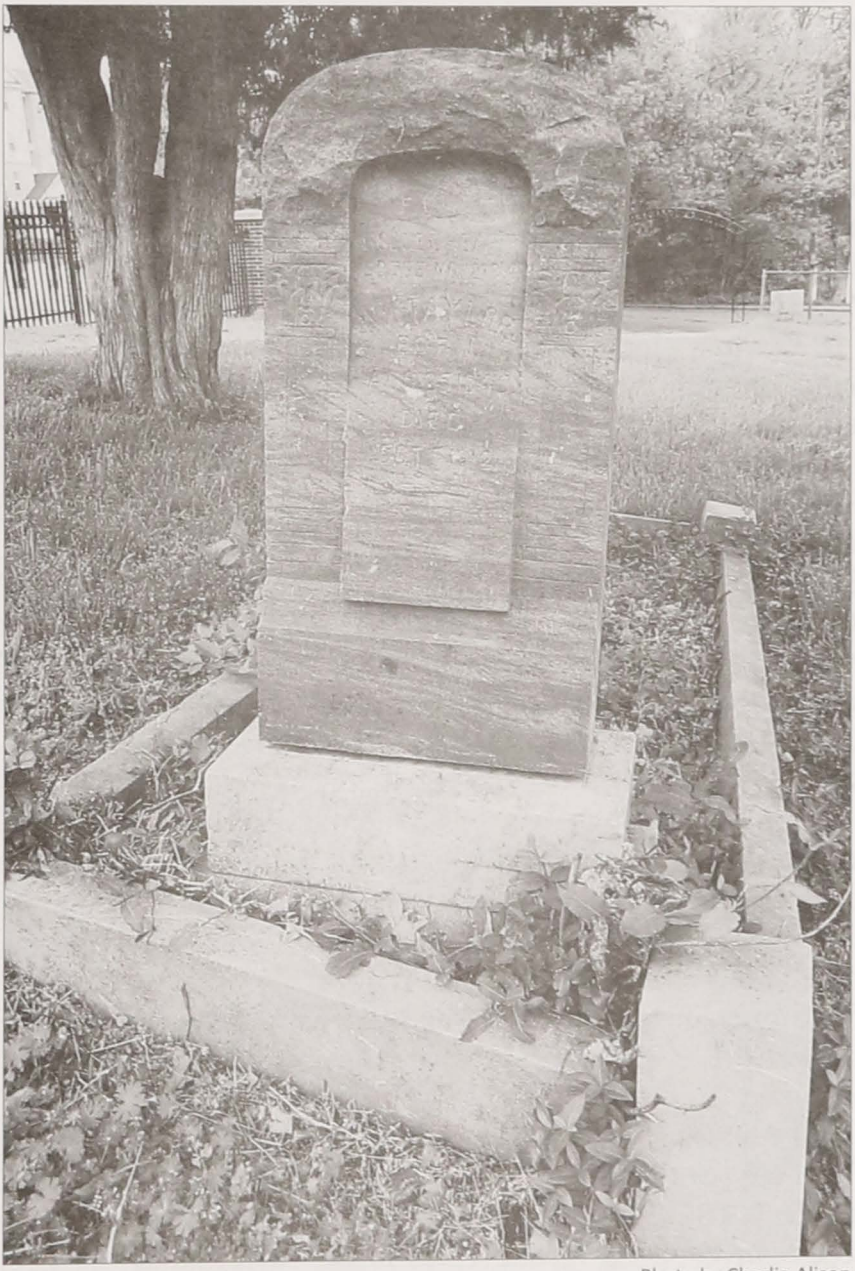

Photo by Charlie Alison

William Taylor's grave is one of the largest and includes a stone pediment surrounding the headstone.

Colored people, or for any other purposes that will add to the ... improvement of the Colored people of said county."

Stephen K. Stone was one of the early founders of Fayetteville and became a highly successful entrepreneur, at his peak becoming one of the wealthiest men in Northwest Arkansas. Stone and his wife Amanda were also community-minded philanthropists and sold or gave land in Fayetteville for projects such as the City Hospital, Harmon Playfield and the West Side School. Fayetteville High School also sits on land once owned by Stephen K. Stone. The home of Stephen and Amanda Stone, the Walker-Stone House at 207 Center Street is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (9.4.1970). Interestingly, Stephen K. Stone was also the grandfather of Edward Durell Stone, who would become one of Arkansas's most famous architects.

The land that was acquired for the establishment of the African-American cemetery lies directly to the south of the Fayetteville National Cemetery (NR 7.28.1999). This military cemetery was created in 1867 as one of seventeen national cemeteries after the Secretary of War was directed to purchase additional land for new cemeteries. The land for the Fayetteville National Cemetery was also purchased partly from Stephen K. and Amanda Stone, with additional land purchases through 1875. It is possible that the land for Oaks Cemetery was sought out, or seen as appropriate, since the newly established national cemetery was adjacent to the property. Prior to the establishment of either Oaks Cemetery or the Fayetteville National Cemetery, this rise of land was known locally as Gallows Hill, and possibly served as the location for county hangings.

Variously known as Twin Oaks, the African, or Colored Cemetery, Oaks or Oak Cemetery, this African American cemetery became an important cultural landscape for the local community. It was used for a burial ground soon after it was given into trust for the "Colored people" of the county. By 1924, the cemetery was again mentioned in a deed of transfer to trustees for the "Colored Cemetery" from Emma Jones.

The earliest known birth of those buried in Oaks Cemetery is

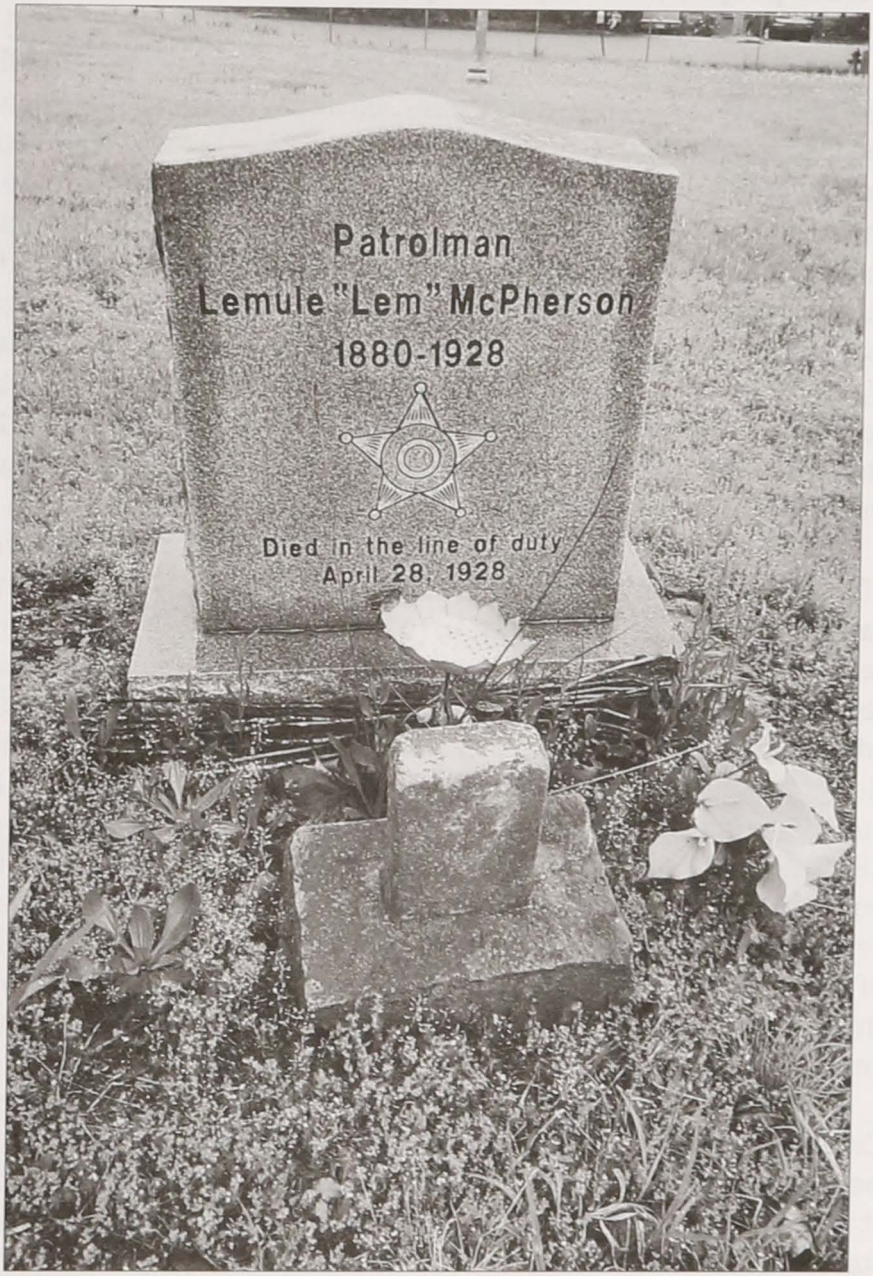

Photo by Charlie Alison

Ollie McPherson served as a private in the 415 Reserve Service Battalion. His date of death is shown as June 25, 1919.

that of Margrett West (b. 1819, d. 1913). Others were born in the 1840s, including Fanny Denton, 1844-1917; Henry Moore, 1845-1922; Lucille Smith, 1845-1912; William Taylor, 1845-1912; and Ann York, 1844-1928. Most likely, all of these people were slaves. One verified slave was Willis Pettigrew (b. Unknown, d. 1913). Mr. Pettigrew is mentioned and appears in a photograph of four former slaves who still resided in Fayetteville c.1910.

Prominent Local Citizens Buried in Oaks Cemetery Include:

Lem McPherson (d. 1928):

Mr. McPherson was a city patrolman, most likely the only black officer in the city of Fayetteville before at least 1960. McPherson was killed in the line of duty in April 1928 while trying to apprehend a recently released moonshiner. McPherson's story has only recently been brought back to public awareness. Through the efforts of the Fayetteville Police Department, he is now listed among the officers killed in the line of duty on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D. C. Fayetteville Police have also had a new gravestone placed for Officer McPherson in Oaks Cemetery. They have also honored him on a memorial in front of the Fayetteville Police Department building.

Otis Parker (1890- 1976):

Mr. Parker was a well-known horseman in Fayetteville and Washington County. Parker was a self-taught veterinarian and popular rodeo trick rider, especially back in the 1930s. He was highly respected in town and kept a pasture for his horses for many years in the southern part of Fayetteville. He was featured in a *Northwest Arkansas Times* article on October 6, 1971.

James Hoover (1896- 1954):

Mr. Hoover worked for some thirty-five years at Fayetteville City Hospital. Six feet-six inches tall, Hoover was a veteran of

Photo by Charlie Alison

James C. Hoover served during World War I before returning to Fayetteville, where he worked at City Hospital.

World War I and came home to a job at City Hospital where he was employed as a janitor and general helper. Over the decades he became one of the hospital's longest serving and most valued employees. After his death, City Hospital put up a plaque in his honor.

Roberta Carr (1922- 1995):

Mrs. Carr was the matriarch of a large local family. Her gravestone is located in the western part of Oaks Cemetery with the newer burials. The children listed on the back of Mrs. Carr's gravestone are Charles Morgan, Bill (also known as Billy Mac), Rodney, Bobby Joe, Mary Susan, Toofer, Barbara and Gail.

Willis Pettigrew (d. 1913):

Mr. Pettigrew was one of the last known slaves living in Fayetteville. He can be seen in a c. 1910 photograph in both W. S. Campbell's *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville: 1828-1928* and in Kent Brown's *Fayetteville: A Pictorial History*. Pettigrew's vertical marble gravestone is one of the nicest in Oaks Cemetery.

George Pool Ballard:

Mr. Ballard was a well-regarded poet during the 1920s and 1930s. His book of poetry, cleverly titled *Ozark Ballards*, is a fine collection of his work published by the Democrat Publishing Company (the parent company of the *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* which became the *Northwest Arkansas Times* in 1937, it was owned at the time by Robert Waugh Fulbright, mother of famed Senator J. W. Fulbright). Ballard first gained fame for his 1924 poem "Woodrow Wilson – A Tribute" on the death of President Wilson. This poem was published not just locally but in newspapers in other parts of the country as well. Ballard is unfortunately buried in an unmarked grave in Oaks Cemetery.

Sam Young (b. c.1828, d. 1931):

Mr. Young was a former slave who resided in Arkansas for

Photo by Charlie Alison

Willis Pettigrew, died July 10, 1913. "At Rest."

over 74 years. Sam reported that he had been sold at least sixteen times during his life as a slave. He recalled the highest price he was bought for was $1600. Sam's last owner was a Mr. Billy Moore of Paris, Texas. Mr. Young followed his former master from Texas to Fayetteville and eventually settled in Fayetteville for the rest of his life. Sam married Martha, also a former slave. They lived to both be over 100 years old. Both died during the 1930s in Fayetteville. He is known to have built a home along Mountain Street, which was destroyed by a tornado in 1880. Sam Young was buried in Oaks Cemetery, but a gravestone does not exist. His son, Sam Young Jr. is also buried in Oaks Cemetery with a gravestone.

Caretakers of the cemetery over the years have included the following organizations: Community Club (1930s); Oakland (sic) Cemetery Trustees (1940s): Labe Joiner, J. C. Hoover, C. C. Manuel and A. Ollison; Oaks Cemetery Group (current): Henry Childress, Lois Bryant.

Oaks Cemetery, while nicely maintained, needs additional funding to improve its care and maintenance. Trees need to be trimmed and shrubs pruned. Better grass and leaf grooming would help. There is a large pile of dirt that needs to be leveled or moved to a less conspicuous part of the graveyard.

A large percentage of the black citizens who have lived and died in Fayetteville are buried in Oaks Cemetery. Because of slavery and the long shadow it has cast on the Fayetteville community and the country as a whole, Oaks Cemetery is unique because it served as the only area specifically set aside for African-American burials in the city. This site has remained an important part of the local community as a record of the newly free generations that survived the Civil War and their decedents in northwest Arkansas. Due to its importance as the only surviving evidence of the development of the African-American population of Fayetteville during the Civil War and in the decades that followed, Oaks Cemetery is being nominated to the Arkansas Register under Criterion A with local significance.

Bibliography

Alison, Charles Y., and Ellen Compton. *Fayetteville: Images of America*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Pub., 2011.

Alison, Charlie, Mary Cantwell, George Crabtree, and Walter Lemke. "Names on Markers at Oaks Cemetery." 'Fayetteville History: The Book of Lists' FayettevilleHistory.com, 9 Feb. 2010. Web. 20 Aug. 2014. <http://www.typepad.com/services/trackback/6a00d83451fb5369e20120a8813770970b>.

Campbell, William S., and Marian Tebbetts Banes. *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928* with the Journal of Marian Tebbetts Banes. Washington County Historical Society: Fayetteville, Ark, 1977.

Cemeteries of Washington County Arkansas, Vol. 12. Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society: Rogers, AR., 1995.

Good, Ken. "Ageless Ozark Horseman." *Northwest Arkansas Times* October 6, 1971. 1, 20.

Kirkpatrick, Matthew B. "Washington County." *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 28 June 2013. Web. 20 Aug. 2014.

"Martha Young Dies at Age Of 101." *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* 30 Aug. 1935, Friday Evening ed. 1.

Neal, Joe. "George Ballard of Fayetteville: Remembering an Arkansas Poet." *The Grapevine*. 16 Mar. 1977.

Oak Cemetery: A Forgotten Place. Dir. John Cooper. Dir./Perf. Tiffany King. Lemke Department of Journalism: University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 2013. Film.

Preston, Izola. "Sam Young: Former Slave of Fayetteville." *Flashback*: Washington County Historical Society (1950): 32-34.

Rothrock, Thomas, "James Hoover," *Flashback*: Washington County Historical Society, Vol. 17, No. 3, (August 1967): 15-17.

Stewart, Charles W. "Fayetteville (Washington County)." *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 8 Aug. 2013. Web. 20 Aug. 2014.

Lemke, Walker J. "Twin Oaks Cemetery, Fayetteville." *Flashback*: Washington County Historical Society, Vol. 8, No. 6, (October 1958): 55.

"Uncle Sam Young, Last Ex-Slave, But Two, Passes." *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* January 31, 1931. 6.

Washington County Deed Books.

Make a Gift That Gives Back to You

You can leave a legacy for the Washington County Historical Society and secure a guaranteed income stream during your lifetime. How? Through a charitable gift annuity at Arkansas Community Foundation.

A charitable gift annuity is a contract between you and Arkansas Community Foundation. Under the arrangement, you transfer assets to the Foundation in exchange for a commitment from the Foundation to pay you a fixed sum for the remainder of your lifetime. After your death, the remaining principal and income is retained by the Foundation and used to support the programs of the Washington County Historical Society.

Current Rates (subject to change)			
Individuals Ages	Rate	Couples Ages	Rate
65	4.7%	Husband 65, Wife 60	4.0%
70	5.1%	Husband 70, Wife 65	4.4%
75	5.8%	Husband 75, Wife 70	5.8%
80	6.8%	Husband 80, Wife 75	5.3%

Rates are for illustration purposes only. The Arkansas Community Foundation will design a gift annuity to benefit you and the Washington County Historical Society.

Through a charitable gift annuity, you can increase your retirement income, postpone capital gains tax and receive an income tax deduction, all while make plans for a significant legacy gift to your community. Find out how you can support the Washington County Historical Society through a charitable gift annuity.

Contact Katie Tennant, executive director of Fayetteville Area Community Foundation, a local affiliate office of Arkansas Community Foundation. Contact her at fayettevillearea@arcf.org or 479-444-6880.

Flashback
Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fayetteville, Arkansas
Permit No.1

University of Arkansas
Libraries, Fayetteville
ARK COLL
65:1
Received on: 05-27-15
Flashback

**********AUTO**5-DIGIT 72701
SERIALS DEPT. COPY 1
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES U OF A
365 N MCILROY AVE
FAYETTEVILLE AR 72701-4002